

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Philip Craft House

other names/site number DHR file no. 71-188

### 2. Location

street & number 1381 Old Red Eye Road not for publication NA  
city or town Chatham vicinity X  
state Virginia code VA county Pittsylvania code 143 Zip 24531

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide X locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

H. Alexander Wise 12/29/00  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:  
\_\_\_ entered in the National Register \_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_ determined eligible for the  
National Register  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet. Signature of Keeper  
\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register  
\_\_\_ removed from the National Register Date of Action \_\_\_

## 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ X private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property (Check only one box)**

- \_\_\_X\_ building(s)
- \_\_\_ district
- \_\_\_ site
- \_\_\_ structure
- \_\_\_ object

### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>4</u> buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>4</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

## 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

[illegible]

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: COMMERCE/TRADE Sub: professional

[illegible]

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

\_\_\_\_ EARLY REPUBLIC \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Other: hall-parlor plan \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation \_\_\_\_ BRICK \_\_\_\_\_  
roof \_\_\_\_ WOOD: Shingle \_\_\_\_\_  
walls \_\_\_\_ BRICK \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_ WOOD \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**Applicable National Register Criteria** (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- \_\_\_\_ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- \_\_\_\_ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- X  C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- \_\_\_\_ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations** (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- \_\_\_\_ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- \_\_\_\_ B removed from its original location.
- \_\_\_\_ C a birthplace or a grave.
- \_\_\_\_ D a cemetery.
- \_\_\_\_ E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- \_\_\_\_ F a commemorative property.
- \_\_\_\_ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1819-1856

Significant Dates 1819

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

##### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

##### Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

##### Primary Location of Additional Data

X State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

X Other

Name of repository: Craft Family Papers; Henry C. Hurt, Jr., and Margaret Hurt, Chatham, Virginia

#### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.67

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1 17 637220 4085050 2

3 4

See continuation sheet.

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**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Pittsylvania County Commissioner of Revenue Map 07000-0A-00-0052-A

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

The nominated parcel includes the Philip Craft House and all adjacent land owned by Henry C. Hurt, Jr.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

September 18, 2000

John Kern, Director  
Roanoke Regional Preservation Office  
1030 Penmar Avenue, SE  
Roanoke, VA 24013  
(540)857-7585

Gary Grant  
907 Grove Street  
Danville, VA 24541  
(804)799-3379

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Henry C. Hurt, Jr.

street & number 215 Gilmer Road telephone (804)432-1400

city or town Chatham state VA zip code 24531

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**7. Summary Description:**

The Philip Craft House is located on one and two-thirds acres in the Red Eye community just off the Old Red Eye Road (State Route 798), some seven miles northwest of Chatham, the seat of Pittsylvania County. Situated on a gentle slope at the headwaters of Cherrystone Creek, the house is an early-nineteenth-century, hall-parlor, brick dwelling of one and a half stories, with an early-twentieth-century weatherboard, farmhouse-type addition.

**Inventory:**

Craft House (c. 1819); with early-twentieth-century addition. *Contributing building.*  
Log tobacco curing barn (early twentieth century). *Noncontributing building.*  
Log barn (early twentieth century). *Noncontributing building.*  
Weatherboarded shed (early twentieth century). *Noncontributing building.*  
Tin-clad shed (early twentieth century). *Noncontributing building.*

**Architectural Analysis:**

The original hall-parlor house is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond with scattered glazed headers above a brick foundation and a water table of unusual rounded brick. A 30-foot by 20-foot rectangle, the simple yet well-crafted dwelling has 12-inch brick walls which rest on a fieldstone foundation below grade. Two cellar windows interrupt the water table on the south elevation of the three-bay house. They flank the front door asymmetrically and align with the first-floor windows.

On the rear (north) elevation, a window and a door correspond to the placement of these front windows. All of these windows and doors are topped with gauged brick jack arches with a "forced" middle key. Windows on the first floor have nine-over-nine sash. Under the eaves is a corbeled brick cornice five rows deep. The gabled roof is sheathed with cedar shingles.

Exterior chimneys at each gable end are of similar but not identical design, each with two sets of breaks and slopes. The chimney haunches feature quarter-round brick like those in the water table. On either side of the end-chimney stacks are small gable end windows, each with a four-light sash. The gables also include racking boards with a dentil design, a detail restored by the present owners using a surviving fragment as a template. At the main floor level, the east gable end has a door south of the chimney, and the west gable end has a window north of the chimney. South of this chimney

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is a door which opens into the cellar rather than the first floor, owing to the fall of the grade at that elevation. A brick buttress, integral to the house, slopes laterally from just inside the front southwest corner and helps support a small shed-roofed cover over the cellar entrance.

Inside are the simple hall and parlor with an attic room above spanning the length of the structure. An enclosed winder stair connects the hall to this half-story sleeping loft. A small, elliptically arched firebox occupies the center of the loft's east gable end. A six-panel door with H&L hinges encloses the staircase near its base. Small one- and two-panel doors, one atop the other, conceal storage under the stairs. During their 1992 restoration of the hall-parlor brick portion of the house, the owners relied on surviving features such as this original stairway door to restore missing elements, including the door between hall and parlor, and the front and back doors. These features were copied in kind using heart pine. Remnants of chair rails, baseboards, door and window casings, and other existing moldings were used as templates to restore or recreate missing woodwork. At this time the owners also renewed the plaster, much of which was severely deteriorated or missing, throughout the house. The present mantels in the hall and parlor date from the early 1990s restoration. They conform to the originals in size, with profiles and details adapted from surviving woodwork. Both hand-wrought and machine-cut nails are evident throughout the structure.

The later portion of the house appears to have been built after 1904 when H.P. Haden purchased and enlarged the dwelling for his wife and growing family. Mr. Haden's early-twentieth-century addition is two-story frame construction covered with weatherboard. Its two floors are shortened overall to make the height of the addition conform to the earlier brick house. Together, the earlier house and addition formed a T-shaped dwelling. In 1992, the present owners separated the original house from its addition, connecting the parts instead with an enclosed, one-story hyphen toward the west side of the structures. Today, the early-twentieth-century addition remains a three-bay structure, some 32 feet by 19 feet, with a full-length porch supported by four simple turned wood columns on the principal (east) elevation. The opposite (west) side is spanned by a wood-framed screened porch which extends several feet beyond the north end of the house to provide an integral cover for a vehicle. A central flue pierces the addition's gabled roof, which is covered in standing-seam terne. Most of the interior walls are sheathed in tongue-and-groove beaded pine boards that are original to the structure. A kitchen, sitting room, and half-bath occupy the first floor, with a bedroom and a bath upstairs.

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The approach to the Philip Craft House is dominated at the east end of the yard by a well-preserved log tobacco (curing) barn dating from the early twentieth century. Just west of the house and its addition are several weathered accessory buildings, also dating from the early twentieth century. Gable-roofed structures include a vine-wreathed log barn which shelters a vehicle and a smaller tin-clad storage building. Also included in this cluster is a smaller shed-roofed weatherboarded building. The entire complex overlooks an adjacent property, just south, where a tranquil spring-fed pond was created some 40 years ago.

**8. Statement of Significance:**

The Philip Craft House, a simple hall-parlor dwelling, is one of a handful of brick structures dating from the early nineteenth century in Pittsylvania County. The Crafts, part of a Southern wave of Pennsylvania emigrants of German ancestry in the mid to late eighteenth century, appear to have built and occupied this house by 1819. Its vernacular form, however, is rooted firmly in the English hall-parlor tradition, with Flemish bond used on all four walls, somewhat old-fashioned for its date of construction, or indicative perhaps of the building ways of an elderly mason. Particularly unusual are the rounded bricks running along the water table and, even rarer, incorporated prominently in the chimney haunches.<sup>1</sup> Early in the twentieth century, new owners doubled the size of the house with a weatherboard addition. That addition, a log tobacco barn, and several wood sheds on the property all postdate the period of significance, which spans the decades from about 1819, when the house is presumed to have been built for Philip Craft and his family, until Philip Craft deeded the property to his son in 1856.

**Justification of Criteria:**

The Philip Craft House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the area of architecture. The structure is locally significant as one of Pittsylvania County's few surviving examples of early-nineteenth-century brick construction. This well-preserved hall-parlor-plan dwelling is further distinguished by the liberal use of rounded bricks in the water table and in the chimney haunches, a construction technique rare anywhere in Virginia.<sup>2</sup> The period of significance for the house extends from 1819 to 1856, the period of Philip Craft's ownership of the house.

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**Endnotes**

1. VDHR correspondence from Calder Loth, June 4, 1993.
2. Ibid.

**Acknowledgments:**

In large measure, this report is based on the detailed Preliminary Information Form prepared in 1993 by Mr. Henry C. Hurt, Jr. Mr. Hurt, his wife Margaret W. Hurt, and son Robert Hurt made the restoration and documentation of the Philip Craft House a family project. The authors' efforts proved infinitely easier and the result was greatly enhanced by the Hurts' paper trail—their careful observations and photographs, their compilation of the Craft family papers, and their meticulous historical research, especially Mrs. Hurt's abstract of the property and related records spanning nearly two centuries.

**Historical Background:**

Philip Craft probably built his hall-parlor, one-and-a-half-story brick residence on the headwaters of Cherrystone Creek in Pittsylvania County in 1819.<sup>1</sup> By that date, Philip Craft and his younger brother George had resided in Pittsylvania County for portions of three decades. Sons of Conrad and Dorothy Kraft and grandsons of Martin Krafft who emigrated from Germany to Berks County, Pennsylvania, in the 1750s, the Craft brothers married daughters of Pittsylvania County landholder William Parker. Philip Craft married Nancy Parker in November 1798, and Philip's brother George Craft married Nancy's sister Mildred Parker in January 1803.<sup>2</sup>

Perhaps William Parker introduced his sons-in-law of German ancestry to the plantation economy and labor practices of the tobacco South. During the 1790s William Parker witnessed estate inventories and participated in estate sales in Pittsylvania County. By early in the first decade of the nineteenth century Parker owned lands in the northwestern portion of the county on Cherrystone and Old Womans creeks. In 1803 William Parker sold Philip Craft 200 acres of land on Cherrystone Creek, Philip's third purchase of land on that drainage. In 1810 William Parker, who had reportedly moved to Pittsylvania County "to grow tobacco," owned four slaves over 12 years old. That year William Parker's sons-in-law each owned a slave over 12 years old.

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Perhaps the Craft brothers acquired their slaves in consequence of their marriages with Parker's daughters. Perhaps they learned about the plantation economy and use of slave labor from their neighbor and father-in-law. In any case, by 1810 both of the third-generation German Craft brothers owned slaves, a practice not observed to be common among Virginians of German heritage.<sup>3</sup>

By 1820 Philip Craft owned 710 acres of land on Cherrystone Creek, land that he farmed with nine slaves. His daughter Camelia Craft married William Davis in October 1824, and his son Howard Craft married Lucy Atkinson in March 1837. Widowed by 1830, Philip Craft in that year headed a household of four white males and fourteen slaves. By 1850 Philip Craft lived alone on farmland totaling 200 acres of improved land and 764 acres of unimproved land. He owned thirty-two slaves, who herded livestock and grew 1,000 bushels of corn and 2,500 pounds of tobacco on a plantation valued at \$3,529.<sup>4</sup>

In 1856 Philip Craft deeded the southern portion of his lands to his son Howard Craft, a merchant and distiller, and the northern portion of his lands, including his hall-parlor residence, to his son-in-law William Davis and his daughter Camelia. The next year in December 1857 Philip Craft buried his son Howard, who was perhaps done in by his own distillery. Philip Craft recorded "drunk" as cause of Howard's death. Philip Craft lived with his daughter from 1856 until his death sometime before 1860.<sup>5</sup>

H.P. Haden, who took Camelia Craft Davis to Whitehorn Primitive Baptist Church for many years until she died in her nineties, purchased the Philip Craft house on 200 acres of land in 1904. Haden evidently built the frame addition to the house and lived there until his death in 1960. In 1983 Henry C. Hurt, Jr., purchased 1.67 acres of land, including the Philip Craft house, which he and his son Robert carefully rehabilitated in the early 1990s.<sup>6</sup>

**Endnotes**

1. Between 1801 and 1820 Philip Craft purchased six tracts of land on Cherrystone Creek totaling 710 acres. In 1820, when Virginia land books first listed value added on account of buildings, Pittsylvania County land books recorded Philip Craft in possession of a building valued at \$1,000 on the original 134-acre parcel he had purchased in 1801. The total value of

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land and buildings on that parcel in 1820 was recorded as \$1,535.65, more than twice the total value of land and buildings on any other parcel owned by Philip Craft. Between 1819 and 1820, tax on the 134-acre parcel increased almost threefold while taxes on the other parcels remained constant. The increased appraisal and taxes for the 134-acre parcel in 1820 suggest construction of a valuable new building on that tract between the county levies in 1819 and 1820. Pittsylvania County land book records compiled by Margaret Hurt. Craft Family Papers, Henry C. Hurt, Jr., and Margaret W. Hurt, Chatham, Virginia.

## 2. Craft Family Papers.

3. Lucille C. Payne, *Pittsylvania County, Virginia: Inventories and Accounts Current, 1770-1797*, H.E. Howard, Lynchburg, Virginia, n.d. Marian Dodson Chiarito, *Old Survey Book 2, 1797-1829, Pittsylvania County, Virginia*, Clarkton Press, Nathalie, Virginia, 1988. Craft Family Papers.

4. Craft Family Papers. 1850 Manuscript Census Schedules for Pittsylvania County Virginia: Free Populations; Slave; Agriculture.

5. Craft Family Papers. Herman Melton, *Picks, Tracks and Bateaux: Industry in Pittsylvania County, Virginia 1750-1950*, H.E. Howard, Chatham, Virginia, 1993. Janie W. Crosby, "Some Deaths of the Period 1853-1896 from Pittsylvania County, Virginia," Gretna, Virginia, 1985, typescript.

6. Craft Family Papers.

**9. Bibliography:**

Chiarito, Marion Dodson. *Old Survey Book 2, 1797-1829, Pittsylvania County, Virginia*. Clarkton Press, Nathalie, Virginia (1988).

Craft Family Papers. Compiled and retained by Henry C. Hurt, Jr., and Margaret W. Hurt. Chatham, Virginia.

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Crosby, Janie W. "Some Deaths of the Period 1853-1896 from Pittsylvania County, Virginia." Gretna, Virginia. Typescript, Virginia Room, Roanoke City Public Library.

Hurt, Henry C., Jr. "Philip Craft House." Virginia Department of Historic Resources Preliminary Information Form, 1993.

Melton, Herman. *Picks, Tracks, and Bateaux: Industry in Pittsylvania County, Virginia*. H.E. Howard, Chatham, Virginia (1993).

Payne, Lucille C. *Pittsylvania County, Virginia: Inventories and Accounts Current, 1770-1797*. H.E. Howard, Lynchburg, Virginia (no date).

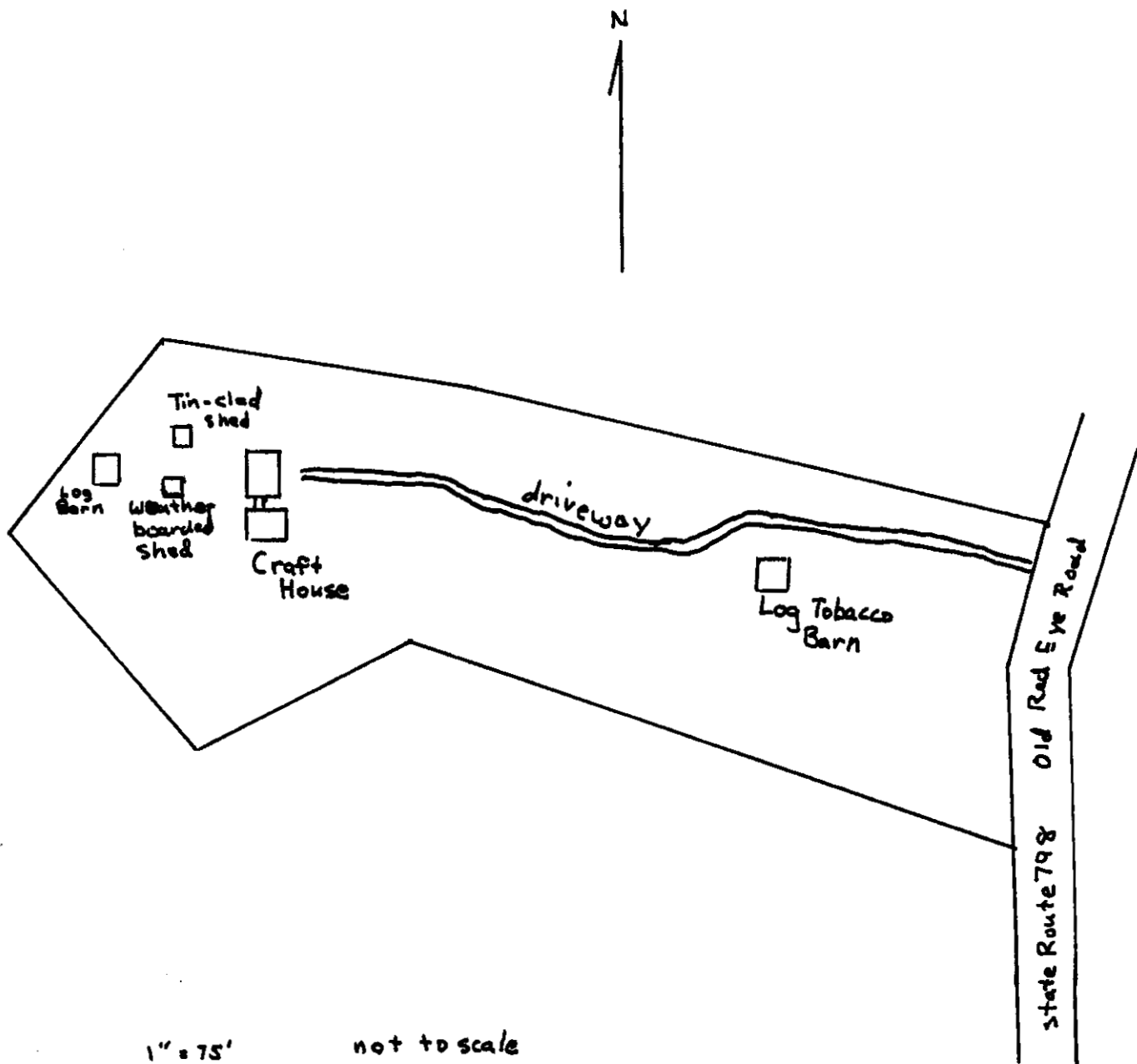
United States Census Manuscripts, Pittsylvania County, Virginia, 1850.  
Agriculture, microfilm, Virginia Room, Roanoke Public Library  
Population, microfilm, Virginia Room, Roanoke Public Library  
Slave Population, microfilm, Virginia Room, Roanoke Public Library

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UTM Reference  
17/637220/4085050

PITTSVILLE  
USGS

